

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 11:28:08 AM
To: Maxine Grad
Subject: I'm the 290th signer: "Gun safety legislation"

Dear Rep. Maxine Grad (VT-83),

I just signed a petition addressed to you titled Gun safety legislation<<http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/gun-safety-legislation>>. So far, 293 people have signed the petition, including 8 of your constituents.

You can reach me directly by replying to this email. Or, post a response for MoveOn.org to pass along to all of your constituents who have signed the petition by clicking here: http://petitions.moveon.org/target_talkback.html?tt=tt-130477-statehousemem-VT_023312-20280311-fjaIZK

The petition states:

"Dear Senators and Representatives, It was with measured relief that I learned that gun control proponents failed in their bid to pass legislation before Friday last, giving your constituents the opportunity to weigh in without having to struggle to be heard over the emotional noise. Yet, that relief was heavily tempered by the Bills passed out of the House and Senate, each seeking permission to confiscate a citizens' property without conviction of a crime. At least the Senate Bill offers some token recognition for the need to preserve the right to Due Process. But the House proposal, the one unbelievably favored by a Republican Governor, doesn't even want that minimal protection of individual rights. I guess President Trump isn't the only one wishing to "grab the guns first" and worry about Due Process rights later. What is proposed is nothing less than a violation of Rights Constitutionally protected under the 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendments of the US Constitution, as well as Articles 9, 11, and 16 of our own Vermont State Constitution. These Amendments and Articles clearly lay out the rights of the people to keep and bear arms and to be free from unreasonable search and seizure. They make it clear that the Rule of Law requires that Due Process be given primacy in any effort to deprive a citizen of either Right or Property. Yet, each of these Bills would ignore that requirement in the name of "doing something". Whenever constraint or abrogation of a Constitutionally protected Right is considered, the doctrine of Strict Interpretation should be the standard. Instead, it appears that emotional appeal is the standard being applied in this case. Ladies and gentlemen, Senators and Representatives, you were elected to your Offices not to simply be political weather vanes, constantly swiveling to align with popular sentiment and the political winds of the moment. You were elected to act as political compasses, with your "True North"

being the Constitution and the Rule of Law. I hope that you hear similar messages from your constituents during your Recess, and I add my voice to theirs to urge you to reconsider your votes when the Legislature reconvenes. I implore you, do not set this precedent of setting the Right to Due Process aside in order to better enable a political agenda. Do not let your own emotions, or the emotional appeals of others, override your duty to the Law and to the citizens of Vermont. I urge any readers who believe as I do to copy this letter, add your name(s) and send it to your Representatives in the Statehouse. Should this precedent be set and allowed to stand, I promise you it will not stop here. I guarantee there are some in the Statehouse, even now, looking at other areas where they might also argue for the suspension of Due Process as assistance in advancing some other agenda items which that Constitutional protection currently renders "problematic". If we stand silent, the only ones we will have to blame will be ourselves. Sincerely,"

My additional comments are:

No new gun laws! No new gun laws will prevent another mass murder.

To download a PDF file of all of your constituents who have signed the petition, including their addresses, click this link:

http://petitions.moveon.org/deliver_pdf.html?job_id=2256560&target_type=statehouse_mem&target_id=VT_023312

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Kevin Van Schaick
Fayston, VT